NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



Issued by the NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

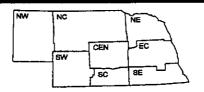
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National Agricultural Statistics Service U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn National Weather Service

For Week Ending April 2, 2000



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week ranged from three to five degrees above normal in the east, to two degrees above normal in the west. Precipitation across the State was light with amounts ranging from traces to sixty hundredths at Imperial.

GENERAL

Limited rainfall last week did little to raise crop conditions or outlook but producers continued to prepare for spring planting, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Spring tillage operations and fertilizer applications, as well as equipment preparations, kept crop producers busy this past week. Other producer activities included branding and working calves, fixing pasture fences, and attending farm sales.

CROPS

Winter Wheat crop rated 3% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. The crop continues to show improvement, but additional moisture will be needed in most areas. Winter kill has not been widely reported.

Oat planting progressed to 66% complete as of Sunday. Fields are beginning to show emergence, but dry topsoil conditions was slowing the process. Condition of the emerged stands are rated at 3% poor, 43% fair, 53% good, and 1% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

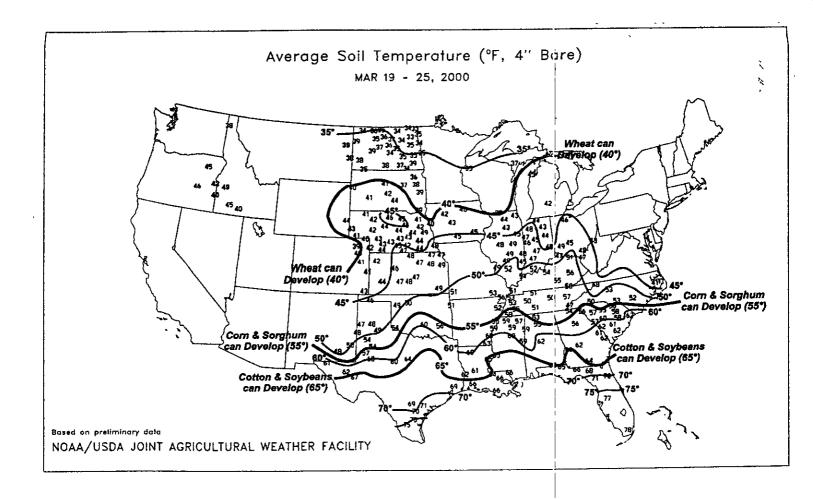
Pasture and range condition was rated at 12% very poor, 20% poor, 44% fair, 22% good, and 2% excellent. Calving was 78% complete to date, well ahead of 67% last year.

FIELD WORK PR	ELD WORK PROGRESS		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS							STATE	LAST	LAST	AVER-
AS OF APRIL 2, 2000		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	SIMIE	WEEK	YEAR	AGE
							PERC	ENT					
% Oats Sown		75	45	66	82	68	70	50	80	66	26	30	20
WINTER REPOR	TING AS OF MAR	CH 31, 200	0										
% Cows Calved		83	80	62	85	77	81	81	75	78	66	67	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE	E AND SOIL MOIS	TURE CO	OITIO	N									
AS OF MARCH 3	1, 2000												
Days Suitable		62	60	69	70	67	50	5 8	59	62	n/a	60	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	0	42	42	41	3	0	6	3	16	22	8	
_	- Short	14	56	44	42	57	17	20	46	37	32	37	
	- Adequate	86	2	14	17	40	83	74	49	47	45	53	
	- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	
Subsoil Moisture-	- Very Short	0	20	62	17	62	2	6	54	35	30	2	
	- Short	6	61	37	58	14	45	94	25	38	47	17	
	- Adequate	94	15	1	23	24	53	0	21	27	22	78	
	- Surplus	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	

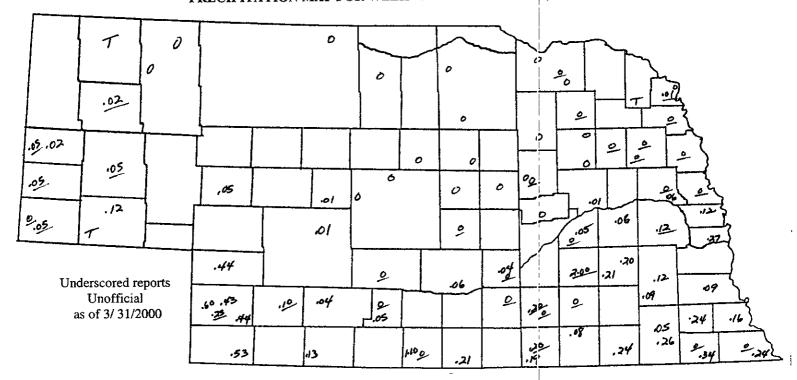
n/a = not available.

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2000



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR

			Precipitatio				
	Station	Ext	remes	N	Domortuse	Total Inches	
		Max	Min	Mean	Departure		
NW	Chadron	69	24	44		T	
	Scottsbluff	70	23	42	+2	.02	
	Sidney	69	23	40		T	
NC	Valentine	65	13	41	+2	0	
Æ	Norfolk	66	20	47	+5	0	
	Sioux City	68	21	46	+4	0	
EN	Grand Island	68	21	46	+3	.04	
	Ord	67	18	44		0	
C	Lincoln	71	21	47	+3	.12	
-	Omaha	69	23	48	+4	.12	
SW	Imperial	71	24	42	1	60	
	North Platte	71	18	41	0	01	